New Nouveau Brunswick CANADA

News Release

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Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat

Premier wishes Aboriginal veterans well on their return to Europe (05/10/24)

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FREDERICTON (CNB) - Premier Bernard Lord met today with two Aboriginal veterans who are returning to the battlefields of Europe for the first time since the end of World War II.

To commemorate 2005 as the Year of the Veteran and to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, Veterans Affairs Canada has organized a spiritual pilgrimage to honour the contribution of Canada's Aboriginal community in times of war.

(Multimedia)

Aboriginal veterans of the Second World War and young people representing every region of Canada will visit former battlefields and cemeteries related to the First and Second World Wars and pay their respects to those soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Donald Moulton and Peter Sappier are the two members of the New Brunswick delegation who will participate in the journey. Both represent Tobique First Nation.

Mr. Moulton served in World War II from 1942-1946. He joined the Carleton-York Regiment and in the army, he drove trucks that carried food, supplies and ammunition until the war was over. Moulton was given a honourable discharge in 1946.

Sappier joined the military at the age of 19 and served in Holland, England and Belgium from 1941-1945. He was a truck driver and worked in hospitals helping the wounded.

"The legacy of the Aboriginal men and women who served their country cannot and will not be forgotten," Lord said. "As time marches on, it is more important than ever that we educate today's youth about Canada and New Brunswick's contribution to preserving freedom - especially the role our Aboriginal soldiers played in the First and Second World Wars.

"The Province of New Brunswick, through the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat, is proud to have been able to assist the federal government with this endeavour."

"On behalf of all New Brunswickers, it is an honour for me to thank Mr. Moulton and Mr. Sappier for their dedication to their country. I wish them all the best as they embark on this very important journey

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of remembrance."

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